

Message Text

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SUBJECT: LONG BEACH-ZAGREB SISTER-CITY ARRANGEMENT SIGNED

REF: A. STATE A-3222; B. WILSON-MARDESICH LETTER OF 5/28/74;

COPIES TO DEPT AND SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL

SUMMARY: LONG BEACH, CALIF, AND ZAGREB SIGNED PROTOCOL
JULY 20 CALLING FOR COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC,
CULTURAL, AND TOURISTIC FIELDS. VISIT BY LONG BEACH DELEGATION
HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL IN PROMOTION US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. THIS
FIRST US-YUGOSLAV SISTER-CITY ARRANGEMENT THIS CONSULAR DISTRICT.
END SUMMARY.

1. ON JUNE 20, 1974, PROTOCOL "ON ESTABLISHING
FRIENDLY COOPERATION BETWEEN CITIES OF LONG BEACH AND ZAGREB"
SIGNED AT ZAGREB CITY HALL BY COUNCILMAN RUSSELL RUBLEY OF
LONG BEACH AND VICE PRESIDENT IVO MISE OF ASSEMBLY OF OPCINAS
OF ZAGREB (VICE MAYOR). THE PROTOCOL PROVIDES FOR DEVELOPMENT
OF ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL, AND TOURISTIC COOPERATION
AND EXCHANGE.
2. COUNCILMAN RUBLEY HEADED DELEGATION COMPOSED OF LONG BEACH
PORT COMMISSIONER H.E. RIDINGS, JR.; WINIFRED FRANETOVICH;
ANDREW MARDESICH; AND NICK MUICK, PRESIDENT LONG BEACH
COMMITTEE FOR LONG BEACH-ZAGREB ARRANGEMENT.

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3. VICE PRESIDENT MISE HEADED DELEGATION COMPOSED OF PROF. S.

JOZINEC, PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ZAGREB ASSEMBLY; J. SLIBAR, VICE PRESIDENT MATICA ISELJENIKA HRVATSKE (ORGANIZATION FOR PROMOTION CULTURAL TIES WITH PERSONS OF CROATIAN EXTRACTION ABROAD); M. VLASIC, SECRETARY GENERAL ZAGREB ASSEMBLY; PROF. IVAN CRKVENCIC, PRESIDENT FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ZAGREB UNIVERSITY; A. CUCULIC, SECRETARY COMMISSION FOR INTERCITY COOPERATION OF ZAGREB ASSEMBLY; AND K. KOZINA, SECRETARY GENERAL ZAGREB TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

4. DURING JULY 18-24 VISIT, LONG BEACH DELEGATION MET WITH ZAGREB REPRESENTATIVES AND WERE RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT L. MAJERIC OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF CROATIA'S COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS. THEY WERE HOSTED AT LUNCH BY VICE PRESIDENT MISE AND AT RECEPTION BY CG. DELEGATION ALSO VISITED PRESIDENT TITO'S BIRTHPLACE AT NEARBY KUMROVEC, ATTENDED CONCERT AT ZAGREB'S NEW VATROSLAV LISINSKI SYMPHONY HALL, AND SAW OPENING OF ZAGREB'S 9TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF AMATEUR FOLK-LORE GROUPS.

5. ON JULY 21, LONG BEACH DELEGATION MOTORED TO HALUDOVO ON ISLAND OF KRK WHERE THEY WERE RECEIVED AND ENTERTAINED BY ZAGREB'S MAYOR IVO VRHOVEC.

6. ON JULY 22, DELEGATION PROCEEDED SPLIT FOR TWO-DAY VISIT DURING WHICH SPLIT'S MAYOR VJEKOSLAV VIDJAK RECEIVED THEM AND HOSTED LUNCH THEIR HONOR. DELEGATION ALSO VISITED SPLIT SHIP-YARD. POSSIBILITIES FOR LONG BEACH-SPLIT SISTER-CITY RELATIONSHIP UNDER DISCUSSION.

7. COMMENT: EARLIER THIS YEAR, LONG BEACH COUNCILMEN AND ZAGREB'S ASSEMBLY APPROVED A SISTER-CITY ARRANGEMENT. YUGOSLAVIA'S AMBASSADOR TOMA GRANFIL ENDORSED THE PROPOSED INTERCITY RELATIONSHIP DURING A CALL ON LONG BEACH'S MAYOR EDWIN W. WADE ON JUNE 7, 1974. ANDREW MARDESICH, MEMBER OF LONG BEACH DELEGATION AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SAN PEDRO'S SLAVIA COUNCIL, HAS BEEN MOST ACTIVE RECENT YEARS IN ENCOURAGING THE LONG BEACH-ZAGREB ARRANGEMENT REACHED ON JULY 20.

8. THIS IS FIRST US-YUGOSLAV SISTER-CITY ARRANGEMENT IN THIS CONSULAR DISTRICT. LONG BEACH DELEGATION MADE MOST UNCLASSIFIED

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FAVORABLE IMPRESSION AND THEIR RECEPTION EXTREMELY WARM AND CORDIAL. VISIT GIVEN GOOD TV AND PRESS COVERAGE. AT ZAGREB LUNCH HOSTED BY VICE MAYOR MISE, CG CONGRATULATED BOTH CITIES ON THEIR IMPORTANT INITIATIVE FURTHERING US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. AS CULTURAL COOPERATION MEASURE, LONG BEACH DELEGATION PLANS ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION LONG BEACH SQUARE DANCERS IN 1975 ZAGREB FOLKLORE FESTIVAL.
WILSON

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